

Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8766

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 09372

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DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO WHITE HOUSE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PSDC, PGOV, GW, US
SUBJECT: TOPICS CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT MAY WISH TO RAISE
WITH THE PRESIDENT

AT MY REQUEST, JUERGEN RUHFUS OF THE CHANCELLORY GAVE
ME THE FOLLOWING TOPICS WHICH HE THOUGHT THE CHANCELLOR
WOULD WISH TO DISCUSS WITH THE PRESIDENT DURING HIS
BILATERAL MEETING NEXT WEEK:

THE ECONOMIC SUMMIT

1. RUHFUS SAID THE CHANCELLOR WOULD PROBABLY WISH TO
DISCUSS PLANS AND TOPICS FOR THE UPCOMING ECONOMIC
SUMMIT TO BE HELD IN BONN. HE SAID THAT THERE WOULD
HAVE BEEN A MEETING OF EXPERTS JUST BEFORE THE
PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH THE CHANCELLOR SO THERE SHOULD
BE SOME FRESH MATERIAL TO REVIEW IN ORDER TO HELP PRE-
PARE FOR THE MEETING.

RUHFUS ASKED ME IF I THOUGHT THE PRESIDENT WOULD WISH TO
FOCUS ON THIS SUBJECT. I SAID THAT I THOUGHT HE WOULD
AND THAT THE PRESIDENT MAY WELL REITERATE TO THE
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CHANCELLOR OUR INTEREST IN STIMULATION AS WELL AS OUR
GENERAL HOPES FOR THE SUMMIT. RUHFUS SAID THE CHANCELLOR
WOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THESE TOPICS.

EUROPEAN MONETARY UNITY

2. RUHFUS SAID THE CHANCELLOR WOULD BE PREPARED TO

BRIEF THE PRESIDENT ABOUT HIS IDEAS REGARDING GREATER EUROPEAN MONETARY UNITY. THE CHANCELLOR'S PURPOSE WOULD BE TO SHOW THAT THESE IDEAS ARE NOT HOSTILE TO THE UNITED STATES BUT ARE INTENDED TO STRENGTHEN EUROPE AND TO CONTRIBUTE TO INTERNATIONAL STABILITY. RUHFUS SAID THAT, IF THE PRESIDENT WERE TO REACT FAVORABLY, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF THE PRESIDENT COULD CONVEY OUR POSITIVE FEELINGS TO THE BRITISH. THE GERMANS BELIEVE THAT THE BRITISH ARE OPPOSED TO THE PROPOSAL FOR GREATER EUROPEAN MONETARY UNITY AND ARE HIDING BEHIND ALLEGED AMERICAN OPPOSITION.

US-GERMAN RELATIONS

3. RUHFUS SAID THAT ONE POSSIBLE TOPIC MIGHT BE THE CONTINUING PRESS ALLEGATIONS ABOUT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND THE CHANCELLOR. RUHFUS EXPRESSED GREAT FRUSTRATION AT WHAT HE TERMED THE MISLEADING AND DAMAGING PRESS STORIES ALLEGING THAT THE CHANCELLOR IS AGAINST THE UNITED STATES AND AGAINST THE PRESIDENT. HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE GOOD TO CONSULT ON THESE STORIES AND ON WHAT COULD BE DONE ABOUT THEM.

AS AN INSTANCE OF HIS OWN FRUSTRATION AND OF THE CHANCELLOR'S, RUHFUS CITED THE ARTICLE BY ARNAUD DE BORCHGRAVE ACCOMPANYING HIS INTERVIEW WITH SCHMIDT. HE
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SAID SCHMIDT HAD BEEN RELUCTANT TO GRANT THE INTERVIEW BUT DECIDED TO DO SO IN ORDER TO USE THE OCCASION FOR SOME POSITIVE REMARKS ABOUT THE UNITED STATES. HE SAID THE QUESTIONS HAD BEEN INTENSELY HOSTILE IN TONE AS IF INTENDED TO PROVOKE DIFFERENCE/(FOR EXAMPLE, RUHFUS SAID ONE QUESTION READ: "AREN'T YOU CONCERNED ABOUT US INACTION IN AFRICA?"). FINALLY, RUHFUS OBSERVED, DE BORCHGRAVE INTRODUCED THE ARTICLE WITH A SPECIOUS ALLEGATION THAT IT PROVED THAT THE FRG WAS "FINLANDIZED," AN ALLEGATION WHICH HE DID NOT BELIEVE THE INTERVIEW SUBSTANTIATED. RUHFUS WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE LATEST SPIEGEL ARTICLE CITING COMMENTS THAT SCHMIDT WAS ALLEGED TO HAVE MADE ABOUT THE PRESIDENT WAS PERNICIOUS IN THE EXTREME AND WAS ABSOLUTE INVENTION AND NONSENSE. HE SAID THAT HE WAS AT A LOSS TO KNOW WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT.

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THE BREZHNEV VISIT

4. RUHFUS SAID THAT HE BELIEVED THE CHANCELLOR WOULD BE PREPARED TO BRIEF THE PRESIDENT ON THE BREZHNEV VISIT IN CASE THE PRESIDENT WAS INTERESTED.

NON-PROLIFERATION

5. RUHFUS SAID THAT HE THOUGHT THAT, IF THERE WAS TIME, THE CHANCELLOR WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED IN TALKING ABOUT US NON-PROLIFERATION LEGISLATION AND THAT THE CHANCELLOR WOULD WISH TO REVIEW FOR THE PRESIDENT HIS OWN EFFORTS WITH GISCARD. RUHFUS SAID THE CHANCELLOR WAS TRYING TO BE HELPFUL. HE SAID THAT SUCH FORMULAS AS "TALKS" RATHER THAN "NEGOTIATIONS" MIGHT BE NECESSARY. NONETHELESS, HE SAID THAT THE GERMANS BELIEVED THAT THE PRESIDENT WILL FIND GISCARD'S ATTITUDE DURING HIS UPCOMING BILATERAL WITH THE PRESIDENT TO BE MORE CONSTRUCTIVE THAN IN THE PAST.

UN SSOD SPEECH

6. AS FOR THE CHANCELLOR'S UPCOMING SPEECH AT THE UN SSOD, RUHFUS SAID THE CHANCELLOR HAD BEEN GIVEN A DRAFT
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BUT THAT HE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE REVISING IT UNTIL JUST BEFORE SPEECH TIME. RUHFUS SAID HE EXPECTED THE SPEECH TO REITERATE STANDARD THEMES OF GERMAN INTEREST IN DISARMAMENT AND ARMS CONTROL. HE SAID HE THOUGHT THE

CHANCELLOR MIGHT MAKE SOME REFERENCE TO THE POSSIBLE USE
OF GERMAN TECHNOLOGY IN HELPING DETECT CHEMICAL WEAPONS
OR NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTS. HE SAID THE GERMANS WERE ALSO
STILL LOOKING AT OTHER IDEAS, PERHAPS IN TERMS OF IN-
CREASED CONTROLS OF PLUTONIUM OR IN TERMS OF CLOSER
UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN YOUTH, BASED ON THE FRENCH-GERMAN
EXPERIENCE.
STOESSEL

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